

We Have Been Overplaying The Play This Season

By EMORY B. CALVERT.

New York, Feb. 22.—Any theatrical manager in New York, except a few disgruntled ones, or any well versed nighter, will tell you that there are more successful plays now running in this city than can be shown on the records for any previous season. With the elimination of the word "successful," the statement is correct. The fact that a play is having a long run in New York does not necessarily mean that it is making money, except in the indirect way on the manager's part. It would not require more than the figures on one hand. The trouble is we have been overplaying the play this season. There has been too much of a good thing.

"The Master Mind."

But here is an example of too much of a good thing. "The Master Mind" is another crook play. There are only two characters in the whole show who dare refer to their past.

It seems that the managers will never learn that a mere crook, as such, is not the most interesting creature in the world. That there have been geniuses in crime none will deny, but it takes a genius of a playright, which James Cagney, the perpetrator of the present affair, is not, to create a genius of any kind, be he crook or priest.

"The Master Mind" was opened Monday night in the very heart of our most popular crook belt at the Harris Theater. But the play did not prove to be popular. There are so many more interesting crooks clustered around Forty-second Street and Broadway, that people prefer having to be shut up in a stuffy theater to watch the antics of a bunch of maudlin rascals of third and fourth rate intelligence.

The story of the present play swings about the machinations of a "master mind" which is working out a terrible and subtle revenge on a certain family attorney. The masterful one is a crook, a crook to New York and sets them up as a family in a fine house in an aristocratic part of town. He is in the family as a butler.

With the stars, as such, to speak, he begins to harry the district attorney with messages written on white paper, indicating that he is on the official trail. Then the messages are sent on red paper, meaning that he is getting closer and closer and the hour to strike is approaching.

In the meantime the district attorney is introduced into the picture. He is a family man, and he promptly falls in love with the little creature, as sweet a little maid as ever grew up on the streets of Chicago. But the "master mind" had prepared for her too. He had sent her to a

convent, where four years of careful training had taught her how to do her hair, wear her clothes, and talk on "subjects."

Then the district attorney receives a message on black paper, the symbol of his doom. He is now running for Governor. The disclosure of his wife's past—oh, yes, he has married the little maid by this time—will ruin him. The hour has come to strike. Everything is in readiness. The "master mind" has triumphed in everything pertaining to and connected with the plot—by stretching out his hand he can reap a revenge as complete as ever fed the ravenous soul of a Dick Turpin or a Jesse James.

What happens?

"The master mind himself falls in love. His heart softens, and his plot dissolves into mist. The butler, in whom the "master mind" was concealed was played by Edmund Breese. While he was not entirely uninteresting, he effected a monotonous method, as if he were trying to appear the spirit of revenge incarnate, which rather cloyed on the intelligence of the audience.

Killott Dexter, as Courtland Wainwright, the district attorney, was, as the whole, quite acceptable. Katherine La Salle, was the little street maid, gentle and sweet, and she won for herself a world of sympathy. No one really blamed the district attorney for falling in love with her. Morgan Conner, as the boy, seemed to think that dashing madly back and forth through the doors constituted this act of dramatic realism. Edward Gilchrist, as the crook, was not guilty of any real faults and William Riley Hatch and Dorothy Rosemore as the beautiful parents of the maid, enacted their roles very creditably—that is, if you like crook characters.

"The Master Mind" will not add to the popularity of the crook play.

The Irish Players.

The Irish Players began their second week's engagement at Wallack's Theater Monday night, with Lady Gregory's "The Master Mind."

This is the story of an old miser who has a hoard of gold.

His relatives come to take it from him, his theft is necessary. They are thwarted on their first attempt. And when they return they find that a nephew of the old man has won all his money by losing coins. Then the nephew and the miser decide to divide the money and venture out into the world to see the sights.

While the play is billed as a comedy it is not a comedy in the usual sense. The lines are more humorous in their implication than in their actual construction. But the piece offers these excellent players another opportunity to exhibit their wonderful ability in character portrayal.

Notes of the Stage.

Anna Meredith has been engaged for the part of "The Lady Larch."

Henny Mortimer has joined Edna Goodrich in vaudeville, appearing as "The Awakening of Minerva."

Viola Knott, a talented daughter of Francis Knott, one of the best known dramatic actresses of a decade ago, is starring in a special company presenting "Breakers" through Canada.

In less than a week home, "Little Women," now playing at William A. Brady's Playhouse in New York, will have passed its 20th performance.

Edward Fiddling, who is just at present appearing with Mrs. Namorova in "The House of the Dead," is to appear in his former role of Jean de la Roche, Netherlands, when that actress returns to the United States for a tour in "Sapho." In London Mr. Fiddling played this role more than 100 times.

Fluoresce Rockwell, who is Robert Mantell's leading woman this year, is to play Juliet in his Romeo before the conclusion of the season. It was as Juliet that Miss Rockwell achieved her first national distinction.

There is strong likelihood that Whitford Kane, the English character actor, now playing in "Hindoo Wakes," may be seen in a revival of "The Pigeons." Mr. Kane, originated the role of the lovable old artist when the play was originally done at the Royalty Theater, London.

President-elect Woodrow Wilson and Mrs. Wilson are expected to arrive at the Belasco Theater last Friday evening, the guests of Col. J. M. House.

The cast to be seen in support of "At the Fall," an original play by George Scarborough, will include Phyllis Young, Robert Laws, George Barnum, Edwin Mordant, Mario Mayerson, R. E. Hines, Charles Mason, Harry S. Haddock, John Jerome and George Drury Hart.

A new melodrama, under the management of Mr. A. Brady, will be produced at McVicker's Theater, Chicago, Easter Sunday. The production is as yet without title, the name to be announced later by Mr. Brady.

Robert H. Mantell will be seen shortly under the management of William A. Brady, in an elaborate revival of a famous classic. Further than this, and to announce that he will be supported by a famous American woman star, Mr. Brady declines to reveal his plans.

Musical Comedy Being Written for Roy Atwell.

Roy Atwell, the comedian in "The Firefly," which is now being presented under the management of Arthur Hammerstein at the Casino, will star in a musical comedy now being written for him by Otto Hammerstein and Rudolf Friml. Mr. Hammerstein has signed a contract with the comedian for a number of years and, after "The Firefly" returns from its tour to the Pacific Coast next season, Mr. Atwell will begin rehearsing his new piece.

Our Greatest Producer.

Who is the really great theatrical "producer" to-day, now that the field is so thickly crowded with so many Mr. and even Mrs. Nobodies "presenting" "Something Leading to Nowhere"? The question was lately put to Charles Frohman, who answered in all seriousness, "Not he who buys, but he who sells the really great plays. The greater the number of managers, the greater the demand for plays. The play's the thing to-day more than it ever was; and the good playwright is the only great theatrical 'producer'."

Another Classic Revival.

A. G. Delamater announces that he has signed a long term contract with Tyrone Power to head an all-star cast in a big Shakespearean revival to be produced immediately after Easter. From now on Mr. Power will devote his time to Shakespeare exclusively and will be seen in a large repertoire of plays.

Detrimental Suggestiveness.

From Judge.

"I see you have disposed of that fine horse you brought from the city."

"Yes," replied the regretful milkman; "he hurt my business. He had been used for pulling a sprinkling cart, and stopped at every hydrant."

Hanger, Me., reports most strange ice cut in past.

GOOD FOR 25 50 100 AND MORE VOTES

MAILED FOR US IN OHIO

SENATOR

PATENT FLOUR

MADE IN U.S.A.

GOOD FOR 25 50 100 AND MORE VOTES

Save the Flour Sacks with the Above
"TRADE-MARK"
The Herald gives one vote for each penny represented in the retail sale price on receipt of sacks or barrel tops showing trade mark.
SOLD BY ALL GOOD GROCERS.

Relief For Weak Women

Hy'se's

Chicago, Ill.

ASK FOR "Society" Chocolates

THIS SIGN MEANS PURITY.

Box tops redeemable for one vote for each penny of retail sale price.

Frederick W. Lippe, Baltimore, Md., Makers.

10c Carbons Redeemable for 10 VOTES in \$25,000 Contest

SPARKING GILATINE

MADE IN U.S.A.

Stop Look Listen

RUSSELLINE

The greatest thing for making the place clean is a small application of Russelline.

When the grocer tells you other soaps are "just as good," smile at them and knock on wood.

SAVE THESE LABELS

PRITCHARD'S

Baking Soda, Indian Corn Starch.

Labels Redeemable at Herald Office.

The Butter that satisfies all tastes all the time.

ELK GROVE BUTTER

Serve it at your table.

Every 1-lb. Elk Grove Carton good for forty votes in Herald Contest.

GOLDEN & CO., 922-924, L St. Ave.

WHEN YOU BUY White House Brand Macaroni or Spaghetti

In Packages at Your Store You Get a Home Product Made in Washington.

We give Herald \$25,000 contest votes.

SMOKES THAT SATISFY AFTER-DINNER

5c

Bands Good for 5 Herald Contest Votes

DEER HEAD, 10c Bands Good for 10 Herald Contest Votes

OFFTERDINGER QUALITY SHOP

608 Ninth Street Northwest.

Herald Contest Votes given with all purchases.

AMANDALE DAIRY

J.W. CASTLE

180 C. ST.

These caps redeemable for 10 votes each in The Herald \$25,000 contest.

THE NEW DISCOVERY "X-ILRO" THE BEST YET

FOR HEADACHE INDIGESTION NERVOUSNESS, &c.

NO FUSS NO MUSS NO FIZZ

Tonic Bracer for THE MORNING AFTER.

Sold at all Drug Stores Four-dose Bottles... 10c

At all Soda Fountains and Bars by the dose.

Bottles and wrappers redeemable for 10 votes in The Herald's \$25,000 contest. First bottle, 5¢ dose, 1¢ dose. Count for 100 votes.

THE NEW DISCOVERY "X-ILRO" THE BEST YET

Chalmers' Gelatine

OLD-FASHIONED SHREDDED

ALSO Instantaneous Granulated

Will make four pints clear or pink jellies.

Cartons good for votes in Herald \$25,000 contest.

FOR SALE BY ALL GROCERS.

Particular People Patronize the COLUMBIA LAUNDRY

Main Office and Works 623 G Street N. W.

We give Herald \$25,000 contest votes.

EMERALD'S SYSTEM CLEANERS—A tablet easy to take, that quickly cleanses the system of all impurities—TEN CENTS A BOX

DRUG COMPANY

4th Street and Mass. Avenue.

GOOD FOR VOTES IN HERALD \$25,000 CONTEST.

Busiest Days of the Contest

Contestants are up and doing to boost their final standing. Every contestant will receive an award. It is up to you whether you win one of the higher awards or one of less value.

Contest Closes at Midnight February 28

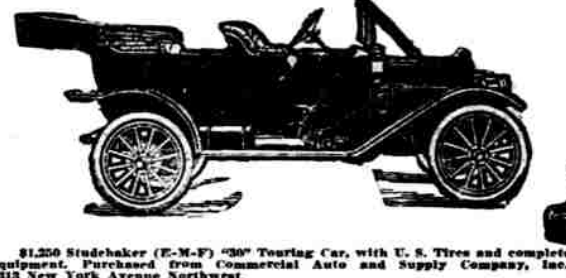
Make every day more profitable in vote-getting than the preceding day. Enterprise and energy will land you high in the list.



The Grand Award. This \$5,000 house located on the southeast corner of Tenth and D Streets Northeast. Purchased from H. H. Hovestadt Co., 1314 F Street Northwest, and Seventh and H Streets Northeast.



Two \$1,250 Reo 30-horsepower Touring Cars, with U. S. Tires and complete equipment. Purchased from Harward Motor Car Company, 1612 Fourteenth Street Northwest.



\$1,250 Studebaker (E-M-F) "30" Touring Car, with U. S. Tires and complete equipment. Purchased from Commercial Auto and Supply Company, Inc., 1312 New York Avenue Northwest.



\$1,250 Overland 30-horsepower, Model 60, Touring Car, with U. S. Tires and complete equipment. Purchased from Overland Washington Motor Car Company, 529 Fourteenth Street Northwest.

Special Blend Coffee, 25c lb. Bag Good for 25 Votes.

W. D. Breakfast Coffee, 25c lb. Bag Good for 20 Votes.

The Coffees Par Excellence. Save the Bags and Get Votes.

Armour's Illinois Special Butterine, 25c, the highest grade manufactured.

Washington Dairy Company, 840 LOUISIANA AVENUE. Phone Main 6806.

We deliver Goods to All Parts of City. We give Herald \$25,000 contest votes.

A Complete List of Awards

	Estimated
1 House and Lot, cor. 10th and D Northeast.....	\$5,000.00
4 Automobiles.....	5,000.00
4 Conover Baby Grand Pianos.....	3,000.00
4 Schubert Player Pianos.....	3,000.00
4 Schubert Upright Pianos.....	2,000.00
27 Paintings.....	2,000.00
8 Reproductions from Oil.....	175.00
4 Sets Parlor Furniture.....	100.00
4 Electric Stoves.....	100.00
2 Couch, Chas. Chas. and Cellaretta.....	150.00
5 Desks.....	175.00
4 Electric Stoves.....	150.00
4 Electric Showers.....	110.00
2 Childers.....	115.00
2 Buffets.....	65.00
4 Rugs.....	125.00
2 Mirrors.....	75.00
2 Library Tables.....	65.00
4 Cellaretta.....	65.00
2 Chas. Chas. and Cellaretta.....	150.00
1 Office Desk.....	140.00
1 Serving Table.....	30.00
14 Parlor or Library Lamps.....	274.00
3 Brass Beds.....	55.00
4 Music Cabinets.....	67.00
3 Parlor or Library Desks.....	65.00
1 Flat Top Desk.....	25.00
1 Cabinet.....	77.50
4 Dining Tables.....	20.00
14 Pair Lace Curtains.....	144.50
4 Trunks.....	40.50
5 Folding Screens.....	122.50
6 Calendars.....	55.50
4 Suit Cases.....	24.50
4 Dining Tables.....	105.00
1 Hall Sitter and Chair.....	35.00
2 Mahogany Rockers.....	70.00
4 Sets—10 doz. each—Dining Room Chairs.....	50.00
4 Mirrors.....	55.00
4 Pedestals.....	53.00
3 Parlor Tables.....	65.00
1 Rug.....	15.00
3 Customs.....	5.00
20 Sets Kitchen Furniture.....	100.00
20 Sets Pictures.....	80.00
20 Sets Pictures.....	87.00
250 Items, listed at.....	\$25,000.00

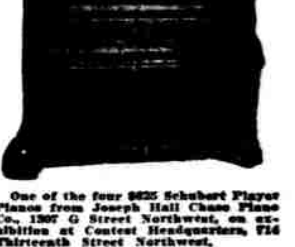
Rules of the Contest

Every contestant should be familiarly acquainted with the rules and conditions governing the contest. They should be strictly adhered to. Read them carefully and observe them in letter and spirit. They are as follows:

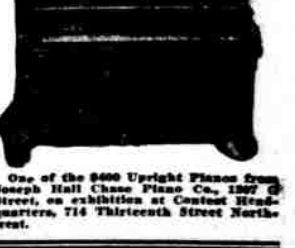
1. Merchants and manufacturers co-operating in the contest, employees of the firms, members of their families, and employees of The Washington Herald and members of their families are barred from competing.
2. In case of the vote, the article involved will be sold and the proceeds equally divided among the contestants tying.
3. Contestants are requested to send their vote to The Advocate as often as possible. Persons may cast votes for any of the contestants, but those sent in cannot be transferred to the credit of another person.
4. Votes can be obtained only by purchasing the firms and products advertised in connection with the contest.
5. The advertisement of any retail merchant or manufacturer product may be withdrawn at any time by The Washington Herald for good reason. In such event votes will not be counted for the firm after the date that the advertisement is withdrawn.
6. Contestants may compete only for the article to be awarded in their respective districts.
7. Candidates are not restricted to their districts, however, in the matter of securing votes. Votes may be received in any section of the city and may be any number, regardless of districts.
8. The contest continues until 12 o'clock midnight February 28, 1913.
9. The relative standing of contestants, as well as any changes in the rules governing the contest, will appear in The Washington Herald from time to time.
10. A general inspection of the awards to be given in the Merchants and Manufacturers' \$25,000 Contest will give you renewed enthusiasm.
11. Go out and boost the \$25,000 house and lot at Tenth and D Streets Northeast.
12. The four \$1,250 automobiles may be seen at the establishments from which they were purchased. The names and many other awards are displayed at the Contest Building, 714 Thirteenth Street Northwest.



One of the four \$750 Conover Baby Grand Pianos purchased from Weber & Pester, 1320 G St. N. W.



One of the four \$625 Schubert Player Pianos from Joseph Hall Chase Piano Co., 1307 G Street, on exhibition at Contest Headquarters, 714 Thirteenth Street Northwest.



One of the \$600 Upright Pianos from Joseph Hall Chase Piano Co., 1307 G Street, on exhibition at Contest Headquarters, 714 Thirteenth Street Northwest.